

Pletolithus Cappelli et al. (2019)

Type species: *Coccolithus gigas* Bramlette and Sullivan, 1961

Derivation of name: From latin *pletum*, meaning filled, and referring to the cross-bars that fill or near fill the central-area, and from greek *lithos* meaning rock.

Type locality: IODP Exp. 342 Site U1410, Southeast Newfoundland Ridge, northwest Atlantic Ocean.

Type level: Lutetian, Subzones CP12b–CP13b or Zones CNE8–CNE12.

Diagnosis: Placoliths with *Coccolithus*-type shields and tube, and a central-area spanned by well-developed axial to diagonal cross-bars.

Remarks: This genus has many features in common with *Coccolithus* from which it most likely derives. The diagnostic cross-bars are broad or conspicuous and may partially fill the central opening. The cross-bars may be rotated with respect to the main axes of the placolith. The distal shield is wider than the proximal one. The relative width of the central-area is highly variable, ranging from very narrow to very relatively wide.

Included species: *Cruciplacolithus mutatus* Perch-Nielsen, 1971, *Coccolithus staurion* Bramlette and Sullivan, 1961, *Coccolithus opdykei* Bown and Newsam 2017, *Coccolithus gigas* Bramlette and Sullivan, 1961.

Cappelli, C., Agnini, C., Bown, P.R. & de Riu, M., 2019. Middle Eocene large coccolithaceans: Biostratigraphic implications and paleoclimatic clues, *Marine Micropaleontology*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marmicro.2019.101812>